



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In the application of :** Wilmert De Bosscher  
**Serial No. :** 09/720,744  
**Filed :** 11 June 2001  
**For :** Vacuum tight coupling for tube sections  
**Examiner :** Dunwoody, Aaron M.  
**Art Unit :** 3679  
**Customer number :** 23644

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450," on December 13, 2004.

Name of person signing Tina L. Sieczkowski

Signature

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

In response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2004, reconsideration is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.